

HISTORIC EVALUATION REPORT

**BAY AREA RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER
Office of Veterans Affairs**

68 & 90 NORTH WINCHESTER BOULEVARD

CITY OF SANTA CLARA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

FOR

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DPR 523 Forms

Primary Record & Building, Structure & Object Record

90 North Winchester Boulevard

68 North Winchester Boulevard

I. INTRODUCTION

The project proposes residential rezoning of an 18 acre parcel owned by the State of California. The current uses of the property are the 17.5 acre Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) property, an agricultural research station of the University of California, at 90 North Winchester Boulevard, and a Department of Veteran's Affairs office building at Winchester Boulevard. The historic name of the BAREC property is the University of California Deciduous Fruit Field Station.

Mr. Ward Hill¹, consulting Architectural Historian, conducted a detailed survey of the buildings on the project site October 7, 2002. The survey identified nine buildings on the project site. The buildings on the project site include a lab/office building, shop, greenhouses and related structures on the BAREC property. The Office of Veterans Affairs building is modern building dating from 1959. During the survey, Mr. Hill physically examined and photographed the exterior and interior of the BAREC buildings in order to prepare written descriptions, noting exterior and interior alterations.

Mr. Hill conducted archival research conducted during October, 2002. The research concentrated on the history of the BAREC operation and the University of California Agricultural Extension. Research was also conducted on the history of the City of Santa Clara for the historic context statement. Archival research was conducted in local repositories of historical records, including the the Biosciences Library and the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley; Local History files and the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society collection, Santa Clara City Library; the California Room at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Public Library, San Jose, the archives of San Jose Historical Museum, San Jose, in addition to local historical materials available in Mr. Hill's personal collection of historical materials. Fred Perry and Luzanne Martin with the University of California Research and Extension Centers Administration Office, Davis, California provided valuable background on the history of BAREC property from their files. Mr. Hill also interviewed Edwin Amstutz, brother of Alfred Amstutz, ex-superintendent of the BAREC operation and Ann Schuering, a noted expert and writer on the history of California agriculture.

The buildings on the project site have not been previously evaluated under any local, state or federal historic designation criteria. The following historic evaluation was conducted as per the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). For purposes of CEQA compliance, an historic resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources. None of the buildings on the project site appear to be eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources. Consequently, the proposed project will not have a significant effect on historic resources.

¹Mr. Hill (M.A. Architectural History, University of Virginia, 1983) has worked as an architectural historian and in the historic preservation field for 18 years. He has completed numerous reports evaluating historic buildings under both CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

General Background

The Spanish and Mexican Period

Father Junipero Serra founded the original Mission Santa Clara de Asis on the banks of the Gaudelupe River in January, 1777. The present location is near the Central Expressway and De La Cruz Boulevard in Santa Clara. The *Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe* was established in November 1777 as the first civic settlement in Alta California. The mission was the eighth of the 21 missions founded during the Spanish Period. A flood in 1779 destroyed the first mission. The padre moved the mission to what is today the University of Santa Clara campus. An earthquake in 1818 destroyed the second mission. The third mission church was built in 1822 on its current site on the University of Santa Clara campus. This mission was partially rebuilt after the earthquake in 1868. Destroyed by fire in 1926, the third mission was replaced with the reconstruction extant today.

The Mexican revolt against Spain (1822) followed by the secularization of the missions (1834) changed land ownership patterns in the Santa Clara Valley. Mission Santa Clara was secularized in 1836. Only 300 Indians lived at the mission by 1839. The Spanish philosophy of government was directed at the founding of presidios, missions, and secular towns with the land held by the Crown, whereas the later Mexican policy stressed individual ownership of the land (Findlay 1980:6). During the Mexican Period, vast tracts of land were granted to individuals, including former Mission lands which had reverted to public domain. In the Santa Clara Valley, 17 parcels were granted from Pueblo Lands, and 13 from the lands of Mission Santa Clara. In 1844, James Forbes received a grant for *El Potrero de Santa Clara*, the mission land bounded by the Guadalupe River and The Alameda. The general trend for granting these lands was to give away the land farthest from the Pueblo and Mission first. Each grant also usually contained both valley and uplands acreage as well as access to a water supply (Broek 1932:44-45).

The waterfront of the *Embarcadero de Santa Clara* (later Alviso), originally developed to allow the early Spanish settlements water access, functioned as one of the foremost points of access for the trade that coursed up and down the Guadalupe River. Native Americans were employed in the trade and often manned large boats to reach ships at anchor to exchange hides and tallow, lumber, quicksilver and agricultural products for imported trade goods. Hides and tallow, and later ore from the New Almaden Mines were loaded on rafts or other flat boats and shipped down the Guadalupe.

American Period

In 1848, California became a United States territory as a result of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the war with Mexico. California was not formally admitted as a state until 1850. After California was admitted as a state, Santa Clara County was one of the original 27 counties

created by the California legislature. 1848 was also the year of the Gold Rush that brought a massive influx of immigrants to California from all parts of the world. California's 1848 population of less than 14,000 (exclusive of Indians) increased to 224,000 in four years. With the beginning of the American period, the population explosion resulting from the Gold Rush created a market for a wide range of agricultural products. As more and more gold seekers, became discouraged with mining, they turned to farming as a livelihood. Farmers started to raise crops and livestock for sale, not just to be self-sufficient.

The population of the Santa Clara Valley expanded as a result of the Gold Rush (1848), followed later by the construction of the railroad to San Francisco (1864) and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. Throughout the late nineteenth century in the Santa Clara Valley, rancho, Pueblo, and mission lands were subdivided as the result of population growth, the Anglo-American takeover, and the confirmation of property titles. Prior to the legal resolution of titles, the transfer of real estate was extremely risky. Large cattle ranches were converted to farming varied crops, and this agricultural land-use pattern continued throughout the American Period.

Upon the transfer of California government from Mexico to the United States in 1848, American settlers in Santa Clara promoted a survey of the town on the land adjoining the mission in the typical American grid pattern. Pioneer William Campbell parceled the land into lots of 100 square yards in 1850. The grant of a lot came on the condition that a house would be built in the next three months. The area included the original grid about 2 miles long and 1.5 miles wide. The town of Santa Clara was incorporated in July, 1852. The California legislature increased Santa Clara's town limits by 1,950 acres in 1856.

Santa Clara was the site of two significant early educational institutions in the California. The Catholic Archbishop in San Francisco instructed the Jesuit priest Father Nobili to renovate the deteriorated mission buildings into a college. Santa Clara College had 12 students when it opened in 1851. The University of the Pacific opened in Santa Clara in 1852 (it moved to San Jose in 1871, than later to Stockton).

The first major business in Santa Clara was the commercial hide tanner Wampach Tannery, established in 1848. The business became Eberhard Tannery in 1866 after its purchase by Jacob Eberhard. The company made fine leather goods in Santa Clara until it closed in 1953. Santa Clara also had a number of large seed farms such as J.M Kimberlin & Company and R.W. Wilson Seed Company, later Ferry Morse, one of the world's largest seed producers. Founded in 1874, the Enterprise Mill & Lumber Company became the Pacific Manufacturing Company in 1880 after its acquisition by James Pierce. Pacific Manufacturing was the region's largest lumber manufacturer. Other Santa Clara businesses in the 1870s included the Cameron Hotel, the Bank of Santa Clara and the town first newspaper, *The Santa Clara Echo* (Thompson & West 1876:15).

In the early American Period, the main agricultural product in California was wheat and the type grown in the Santa Clara Valley was considered to be higher quality than other areas of California. Santa Clara County's wheat production increased from 600,000 bushels to a peak of almost 3 million bushels in 1878. Wheat farming declined in California by the 1880s because yields dropped from not rotating crops and the development of competing wheat growing areas like Australia and Argentina (Hilbert and Lewis 1984:2). The development of irrigation and new transportation systems in California also led to wheat being replaced by more lucrative crops, like fruit and vegetables. The opening of the transcontinental railroad also made it easier to ship fresh and canned products to the major cities in the east coast.

The drop in wheat production coincided in Santa Clara County with a shift to fruit growing as the basis of the local agricultural economy. Horticulture had early roots in San Jose with the work of Louis Pellier, Antoine Delmas and William Daniels in developing orchards and fruit varieties for the growing conditions. The 1853 Pioneer Horticultural Society founded in San Jose provided a forum for nurseryman to meet and to promote of local horticulture. The First State Agricultural Fair was held in 1856 in San Jose with the Santa Clara County orchardists winning most of the awards. In the 1870s, prunes became the predominant crop in the Santa Clara Valley, with other fruits, like apricots and cherries, and grape vineyards, also contributing to the economy. Dried fruit production exceeded fresh fruit because of its ease of shipping and low spoilage. Both Santa Clara and Campbell vied for the title of the Prune Capitol of the World. The fruit canning industry began in 1871 when Dr. James Dawson founded the area's first commercial cannery, later known as the San Jose Fruit Packing Company. With the numerous orchards near Santa Clara, fruit canning became a major industry with A. Block Fruit Company one of the largest.

Santa Clara had a population of 3,000 in 1880. In 1885, the California Legislature established Agnew State Hospital, the first state hospital for caring for the mentally ill, just north of Santa Clara in the town of Agnew (Santa Clara annexed this area in the 1950s). In 1889, the *Santa Clara Journal* published its first newspaper and in 1891, Santa Clara completed construction on a new city hall at Benton Street and Main. The city established its own electrical utility in 1896. The population of Santa Clara increased to 3,650 by 1900. The most serious damage from the 1906 earthquake was to Agnews State Hospital where 112 patients died. The buildings had to be largely rebuilt because of earthquake damage. The Pacific Manufacturing Company, however, prospered after the earthquake, supplying lumber to rebuild the extensive devastation in San Francisco. The population of Santa Clara increased to 4,348 as many San Francisco residents fled to the surrounding towns.

In 1912, Santa Clara College changed its name to the University of Santa Clara. Santa Clara built a new Town Hall at Franklin and Washington Streets in 1913. The town library moved to the new Town Hall. By 1920, the town of Santa Clara's population reached 5,220. In 1927, the town of Santa Clara became officially the City of Santa Clara. The City's population was 6,300 in 1930.

Food processing was still the main source of livelihood into the Depression years of the 1930s. The Santa Clara Valley had 120,000 acres in prunes worth \$ 15 million, and the dehydrators produced 100 million tons a year (Christiansen et al 1996:159). The City of San Jose alone had 22 canneries in 1930, most locally owned, and 13 fruit drying plants. Migrant workers picked the fruit and seasonal cannery workers canned it for shipment all over the world. The vast majority of orchards in the valley were 100 acres or less, tended by families from Southern European countries, some of who had their fruit stands. The relationship between growers and processor was often hostile during the 1930s, with many growers forming cooperatives to negotiate prices with the canneries. In 1939, the growers went on strike against the canneries protesting the low prices offered for their fruit. The cannery workers went on strike in 1931 because of wage reductions.

A major change in the focus of the Santa Clara Valley economy occurred in 1933. When the Naval Air Station in Sunnyvale opened in 1933, a variety of other military related industries started up in the area. The military presence also helped reduce the impact of the economic downturn of the 1930s on the local populace. The beginning of World War II brought a huge influx of population and investment by the federal government because of Moffitt Field or other military research facilities. The federal government invested \$ 35 billion in California during the War years. The Depression and war eras "marked the beginning of economic dependence on military contracts and the business of war" (Ignoffo 1994: 60). Originally producing equipment for the canning industry, the Food Machinery Corporation (FMC) in San Jose shifted its focus to the production of military equipment. The company remained a supplier to the Defense Department after the War.

The change in the economic focus led to eventual demise of the agricultural economy and the rise of the electronics industry in Santa Clara County. The economic changed led to the opening of the region's- first major airport, San Jose Municipal Airport near Santa Clara, dedicated February 1, 1949. The expanding urbanization of Santa Clara in the 1940s and early 1950s helped spur the development of new housing for a non-farm population of working families, cannery and railroad workers, plumbers, carpenters, drivers and construction workers. In 1940, Santa Clara County had 150,000 acres of orchards and a population of 174,949; by 1950, the population rose to 289,000 while orchard acreage decreased to 86,000 (Loomis 1985:28). The population of Santa Clara was 11,700 in 1950. During the 1950s and 1960s, many of City of Santa Clara industries with roots in the 19th century, such as Eberhard Tanning and Pacific Manufacturing, closed. The population of the City of Santa Clara reached 83,500 in 1966.

In recent decades, Santa Clara has become an urban center with multi-unit housing, commercial centers, and many growing businesses, such as Intel and 3Com, in the electronics industry as "Silicon Valley" has grown. The City of Santa Clara had a population of 93,600 in 1990. The Silicon Valley boom of the 1980s and 1990s has dramatically altered the regional landscape; industrial parks, commercial districts and housing subdivisions have taken the place of the orchards that once flourished in the project area and in the Santa Clara Valley as a whole.

Historic Background: University of California Agricultural Extension

Modern agricultural research had its origins in the 18th century Enlightenment belief in the human's ability to make progress through the rational application of the scientific method. Prior to the 18th century, agricultural practice had remained essentially unchanged since the period of the Roman Empire. In the United States, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin both conducted experiments to improve various agricultural methods. Special groups in Europe and America investigating various agricultural problems formed in the 18th century to discuss and correspond about their experiments. Organized in 1785, the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture was the first society of its type in the United States. Agricultural societies numbered in the hundreds by the mid-19th century and state legislatures supported state boards of agriculture. Six states had farmer's institutes by the early 1860s.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) was formed in 1862, the same year the federal Morrill Act passed providing federal land grants to each state for the endowment of at least one College dedicated to teaching of agriculture and the "mechanic arts". The University of California was created in 1869 (originally in Oakland, later in Berkeley) by state legislation to take advantage of the Morrill Act. Ezra Carr was the University's first professor of Agriculture, Agricultural Chemistry and Horticulture. In 1887, the Hatch Experiments Station Act established agricultural experiment stations in land grant colleges. During the 1890s, land grant colleges began to offer short courses and traveling schools to farmers to improve agricultural methods. Cornell University led the nation with extension projects with grape growers in New York in 1894 (Scheuring 1989: 8). In 1897, the University of California created the Department of University Extension in Agriculture with E.J. Wickson as director. The Agricultural Extension expanded its activities by offering correspondence courses on a variety of agricultural topics in 1903.

In 1909, a federal Commission on Country Life recommended a nation-wide extension system to bring the resources of the agricultural colleges to farmers. The Smith Lever Act of July, 1914 created a national system of county agricultural agents/advisors through the USDA and the sponsorship of the state land grant colleges. Anticipating the national act, the University established its Division of Agricultural Extension within its Department of Agriculture in May, 1914. B.H. Crocheron was the first Director. The University's agricultural division began its Research and Extension Center system to research regional problems in 1912. Under the Smith Lever Act, the first county farm advisors were in San Diego, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties. Their work was strictly educational and not regulatory. The USDA paid for 18 percent operating costs of the County Extension Cooperatives, the counties paid for office and clerical staff and the University paid for the balance (Anonymous 1964:CL3). The agricultural extension service and the university experiment stations work together as a team, with the station conducting research and the extension adapting it to local conditions. The Santa Clara County research center known as the Deciduous Fruit Station - opened in 1920 on leased land in Mountain View (later moving to its current site in Santa Clara in 1928).

In 1934, the Agriculture Adjustment Administration (administered by the Extension) was formed to help farmers stabilize their incomes during the Depression. The program reduced production through agreements with farmers. As part of the war effort in the 1940s, the Extension produced brochures on blackout strategies for farm buildings, rural fire protection and home food production (Scheuring 1989:33). The post-World War II period was one of significant growth for the Extension as an array of new technologies was introduced, including drugs, chemical and machinery. By the 1960s, the Extension expanded its research and advising from commercial farmers to part-time farmers and non-farm audiences, including public land officials, turf growers, floriculturists, golf course managers and landscapers. In 1964, the Extension had 532 farm advisors and specialists, working in 50 general fields and in several hundred crops. The focus of the Experiment Stations has been on basic and long-term research while the Extension service engaged in adaptive fieldwork and immediate problem solving.

The University of California Deciduous Fruit Field Station, Santa Clara, California

Originally known as the University of California Deciduous Fruit Field Station, the Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) was established in the Santa Clara Valley in 1920 for investigating problems pertaining to the growth and care of deciduous fruits (Amstutz 1959). The station was planned to serve growers in California's central coast counties. The station initially leased 5 acres in Mountain View that existing buildings that could be converted to office and laboratory space. Dr. W.L. Howard was director. The station's early research focused on brown apricot scale control, the control of brown rot in apricots, irrigation and pruning methods and work on oakroot fungus. When the Mountain View station closed in 1926, the station moved to a temporary site in the Willow Glen area of San Jose.

The station moved to its permanent new location on the Santa Clara/Los Gatos Road (later Winchester Boulevard) in 1928. Dr. B. A. Rudolph, who worked as a plant pathologist at the station, became the superintendent. The University leased 13 acres here from the Woman's Relief Corps Home, a state institution providing housing to indigent widow and daughters of veterans of the Civil War. The State of California purchased this site in four parcels from A.E. Osbourne between 1921 and 1924. A new laboratory/office building and a shop/machinery storage building were completed in late 1928. Research activity at the declined in the late thirties as staff was moved to Berkeley and Davis. Apparently only Dr. Rudolph worked at the station during the war years.

In 1947, after the legislature closed the women's home to future applicants, several organizations tried to take control of the property, including the Santa Clara County Welfare Department. A number of agricultural organizations served by the experiment station lobbied for the continuance of the Deciduous Fruit Station because the Extension considered closing the Santa Clara station. The University opened and closed research stations regularly depending on the needs of different areas they served in the state (Scheuring 2002). After the University of California decided to keep the Santa Clara station operating, the state transferred 13 acres of the

property to the University in 1952. The Station's administration was also transferred to the Field Station Administration in Davis.

When Dr. Rudolph passed away in June, 1953, Alfred Amstutz became the station superintendent. Amstutz had worked at the station since it opened in 1928. According to Edwin Amstutz, Alfred Amstutz research focused on strawberry varieties and tomatoes for canning (Amstutz 2002). A short 1959 history of the Deciduous Fruit Field Station written by Alfred Amstutz indicated that the "successful projects completed at the station" included a spray program for apricot brown rot, control programs for weevils, aphids, cyclamen mite, walnut blight and oakroot fungus, production and release of 5 varieties of strawberries, ESSRR canning tomato resistant to verticillium; research on other plants attacked by verticillium. When the Women's Relief Corps buildings were demolished in 1963 five additional areas became part of experiment station.

The station research shifted to ornamental crops in the 1960s as subdivisions and office/research parks replaced Santa Clara County's fruit orchards. The original focus of the station (reflected in its name as a Deciduous Fruit Station) had obviously become obsolete. The California State Florist Association financed the construction of three greenhouses at the research station. The research in the greenhouses focused lilies and mums. The potting shed near the greenhouses dates from 1971. Research also focused in turf grass and landscape plants, like iceplant, oleander and pine. The station address changed from 125 to 90 North Winchester after the property was annexed by the City of Santa Clara in 1977. In 1995, the field stations became Research and Extension Centers so the Deciduous Fruit Station was renamed the Bay Area Research and Extension Center. The property recently transferred back to the State of California since the Extension decided to close BAREC.

III. DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

(the photos and sketch plan referenced are included with the attached DPR 523 forms)

The flat, rectangular shaped 17.5 acre Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) property has a tall hedge and wall largely shielding views of the property from North Winchester Boulevard. The majority of the property is planted with various crops. A cornfield occupies much of the central area. An apple orchard is at the southwest corner adjacent to a windrow of trees and a small vineyard. An area with turf grass is near Winchester Boulevard. The property is an area of suburban residential and commercial retail uses.

The BAREC property has its main building complex at the northeast corner. The main complex includes eight buildings. The original 1928 buildings on the site are the lab/office and the shop. The other six buildings - 3 greenhouses, restroom building, pesticide building and potting shed are modern structures dating from the 1970s. Other structures include a small pump house, water tank and an open storage shed. About 200 feet southwest of the main complex are two additional buildings - equipment shed and storage building (both from 1977).

The paved driveway and exit leading to Winchester Boulevard are north and south of the office/laboratory building (Photo 1). A chain link fence, several small trees and a box hedge are in front of the office/lab and paved parking area is at the rear of the building. Several small shrubs and trees are adjacent to the side facades. The irregular plan office/lab has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and stucco exterior walls (Photo 2). Stylistically, the building resembles a bungalow style house of the period. The single-story front section steps up to a two-story rear section. Structurally, the building is stud wall, wood-frame construction with a concrete foundation. A stucco chimney projects from the east slope of the roof. The building primarily has one over one, wood-sash, double-hung windows. The main entrance door on the east facade is below a small shed roof supported by square columns with classical moldings (Photo 3). The building has subsidiary doors, one on the south and two on the north facades (Photo 4). Three garage doors are on the west facade. From the front door, one enters a reception area adjacent to a small office. The original plans indicate seven laboratories (now used as offices) occupied most the interior space. The first floor has a large laboratory area north of the office (Photo 5) and a small lab south of the reception area. A stair from the reception area leads hallway opening to five small labs on the second floor. The labs have tongue and groove siding on the walls and ceiling and cabinets on one wall (Photo 6). The basement area includes a kitchen, garage and furnace room.

Directly west of the lab/office is the machinery storage/shop building (Photos 7 & 8). This simply detailed, single-story building has a double gambrel roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof eaves have exposed rafters. The stud-wall, wood-frame is covered with exterior, horizontal wood siding (the original siding is covered with plywood on the south facade). The south half of the east facade has an open entrance for machinery. Adjacent to this opening on the north is the shop area with a sliding door constructed of vertical wooden tongue and groove with diagonal bracing. The same sliding doors are on the west and north facades. The west facade has three, four light windows. The interior of the shop space has unfinished horizontal board walls, exposed roof rafters and a concrete floor (Photo 9).

Just south of the machinery storage/shop building are the three modern greenhouses and the potting shed. The rectangular plan greenhouses are steel tube frame construction with fiberglass exterior cladding (Photo 10). The rectangular shaped potting shed is constructed of wood-frame and concrete block (Photo 11). The exterior cladding is vertical wood boards and fiber-glass. The other buildings on the property dating from the 1970s include the restrooms (Photo 12), the pesticide building (Photo 13), the open storage shed (Photo 14), the pump house and water tank (Photo 15) and the equipment shed (Photo 16).

IV. HISTORIC EVALUATION

California Register of Historical Resources

In September, 1992, Governor Wilson signed Assembly Bill 2881 which created more specific guidelines for identifying historic resources during the project review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

A project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. For purposes of this section, an historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources.²

Consequently, under Section 21084.1, an historic resource eligible for the California Register would by definition be an historic resource for purposes of CEQA compliance. The Final Guidelines for nominating resources to the California Register were published January 1, 1998. Under the regulations, a number of historic resources are automatically eligible for the California Register if they have been listed under various state, national or local historic resource criteria.³

In order for a resource to be eligible for the California Register, it must satisfy all of the following three criteria:

- A. A property must be significant at the local, state or national level, under one or more of the following four *criteria of significance* (these are essentially the same as National Register criteria with more emphasis on California history):
 - 1. the resource is associated with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history and cultural heritage of California or the United States.
 - 2. the resource is associated with the lives of persons important to the nation or to California's past.
 - 3. the resource embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.
 - 4. the resource has the potential to yield information important to the prehistory or history of the state or the nation (this criteria applies primarily to archaeological sites).

² California State Assembly, Assembly Bill 2881, Frazee, 1992. *An Act to Amend Sections 5020.1, 5020.4, 5020.5, 5024.6 and 21084 of, and to add Sections 5020.7, 5024.1, and 21084.1 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to historic resources.*

³ This aspect of the California Register criteria is not relevant to the buildings affected by this project since they have not been previously listed under any historic resource designations.

- B. the resource retains historic integrity (defined below); and,
- C. it is 50 years old or older (except for rare cases of structures of exceptional significance).

The California Register regulations define "integrity" as "... the authenticity of a property's physical identity, evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the property's period of significance," that is, it must retain enough of its historic character or appearance to be recognizable as an historical resource. Following the National Register integrity criteria, California Register regulations specify that integrity is a quality that applies to historic resources in seven ways: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.⁴ A property must retain most of these qualities to possess integrity.

The use of the phrase "... appears potentially eligible or not eligible" for the California Register is standard practice in an evaluation discussion. Only the State Office of Historic Preservation can make an actual determination of eligibility for the California Register.

The only BAREC buildings over 50 years old are the lab/office building and the shop. The other buildings date from the late 1960s or 1970s, thus are not of potential historic significance. The lab/office building retains a high level of historic integrity. The only exterior alteration is the ramp on the front facade. The original interior plan and finishes are intact. The shop building also does not appear to have been altered since originally constructed. The potential significance of these buildings is under California Register Criterion 1 (patterns of history etc) because of their association with agricultural history of the Santa Clara Valley and the research programs of the University of California. BAREC has always been one of the smaller research stations in the University system with a limited staff and budget. The research at the station from 1928 to 1952 (i.e conducted over 50 years ago) was typical of other stations in the system, focusing on plant pathology issues to serve local commercial agricultural interests. According to agriculture historian Ann Scheuring, the University has opened and closed research stations on an on-going basis depending on the needs of the agricultural economy in the various parts of California. Based on the historical research conducted for this research, the Santa Clara research station does not appear the research have had exceptional importance in the history of California agriculture. The strawberry varieties developed at BAREC may have contributed to the cultivation of this fruit, but more research is needed to assess its significance. In conclusion, the lab/office and the shop do not appear to be sufficiently significant under Criteria 1, 2 or 3, thus the buildings do not appear to be eligible for the California Register. The office building at 68 North Winchester Boulevard is a modern structure occupied by the Office of Veterans Affairs that does not appear to be of historic significance.

4. *The definition of integrity under the California Register follows National Register of Historic Places criteria. Detailed definitions of the qualities of historic integrity are in National Register Bulletin 15, **How to Apply National Register Criteria for Evaluation**, published by the National Park Service.*

V. IMPACTS & MITIGATION

CEQA Guidelines define a "significant effect" as a project that leads to a "substantial adverse change" such as "...demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration that impair the significance of the historic resource" is the equivalent of a significant environmental effect.

For purposes of this project, a significant effect would occur if the project would have an effect on one or more properties listed on, or potentially eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources. Such an effect could occur through demolition of or other substantial adverse change to an individually listed or eligible property, those properties contributory to a district or through the implementation or other adverse effects as a whole in a manner such that the district's integrity could be compromised or its eligibility diminished.

The Land Use Element of the *City of Santa Clara General Plan 1990-2005* has the following two policies regarding historic resources:

Policy 19: Identify and formally recognize historically and architecturally significant properties and features.

Policy 20: Encourage owners to rehabilitate and maintain historic properties. Consider adaptive reuse of historic structures as an alternative to demolition.

Impact 1.1-1: Under the proposed project, all the buildings within the 18 acre property at 68 and 90 North Winchester Boulevard in the City of Santa Clara, California will be demolished for new residential development.

Impacts Evaluation

The ten buildings at 68 and 90 North Winchester Boulevard evaluated in this report do not appear to be eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources. The proposed demolition will not affect any listed, or potentially eligible National Register or the California Register properties. Under the CEQA statutes and Guidelines, no mitigation measures are required.

Suggested Conditions of Approval

Although mitigation measures are not required under CEQA, the following condition of approval is recommended. Because of the association of the BAREC lab/office and shop with local agricultural history -an important part of Santa Clara Valley history - it is recommended that historic documentation of these buildings be prepared, including photographs taken according to the archival standards of the Historic American Building Survey (NABS). Copies of the documentation shall be donated to the local history collection at the City of Santa Clara Main Library, the California Room at the San Jose Main Library and the archives of the San Jose Historical Museum. A copy with the original photographic negatives shall be donated to the University of California archives at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

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State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 2

*Resource Name or #: 68 North Winchester Boulevard

P1. Other Identifier: NA

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted X *a. County Santa Clara
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary)

b. USGS 7.5' Quad Date T ; R ; B.M.

c. Address 68 North Winchester Boulevard City Santa Clara Zip 95117

d. UTM: Zone ; mE/ mN

e. Other Location Data: (e.g. parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc. as appropriate)

This 5 acre parcel is bounded by Dorcich Street on the south and North Winchester Boulevard on the east, in the City of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County, California (APN 303-017-047).

*P3a. Description (Describe the resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting & boundaries):

The Office of Veterans Affairs occupies the modern office building at 68 North Winchester Boulevard. The building dates from 1959 and was built by the State of California. The concrete block building has a gently pitched gable roof with wide eaves. The building has fixed pane windows. The building does not appear to meet the California Register criteria for resources less than fifty years old, thus it does not appear to be eligible for the California Register as an historic resource.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP6

*P4. Resources present: X Building Structure Object Site District Element of District
Other _____

P5a. Photo or Drawing

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

P5b. Description of Photo:

*P6. Date
Constructed/Age and
Sources: X Historic
Prehistoric
Both 1959

*P7. Owner and Address
State of California

*P8. Recorded by:
(Name, affiliation, and
address) Ward Hill,
Architectural Historian,
3124 Octavia Street, San
Francisco, CA 94123

*P9. Date Recorded
October, 2002

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Intensive

*P11. Report Citation (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter none)

Historic Architecture Report for the Bay Area Research and Extension Center

Attachments: NONE X Location Map X Sketch Map X Continuation Sheet X Building, Structure and
Object Record Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record
Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List)

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 2 of 2

*Resource Name or # (assigned by recorder) 68 North Winchester Boulevard

*Recorded by Ward Hill *Date: October, 2002 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update



**68 North Winchester Boulevard
View from southeast**

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 23

*Resource Name or #: Bay Area Research & Extension Center

P1. Other Identifier: NA

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted X *a. County Santa Clara
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary)

b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date _____ T _____ ; R _____ ; B.M. _____

c. Address 90 North Winchester Boulevard City Santa Clara Zip 95117

d. UTM: Zone _____ ; mE/ _____ mN _____

e. Other Location Data: (e.g. parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc. as appropriate)

This 17.5 acre rectangular shaped parcel is bounded by Forest Avenue on the north, Dorcich Street on the south, North Winchester Boulevard on east and Henry Avenue on the west, City of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County, California (APN 303-017-048).

*P3a. Description (Describe the resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting & boundaries):

The flat, rectangular shaped 17.5 acre Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) property has tall hedges adjacent to a wall largely shielding views of the property from North Winchester Boulevard. The majority of the property is planted with various crops. A cornfield occupies much of the central area. An apple orchard is at the southwest corner adjacent to a windrow of trees and a small vineyard. An area with turf grass is near Winchester Boulevard. The property is an area of suburban residential and commercial retail uses. (see continuation sheet)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP33

*P4. Resources present: X Building _____ Structure _____ Object _____ Site _____ District _____ Element of District _____ Other _____

P5a. Photo or Drawing

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

P5b. Description of Photo:

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and
Sources: X Historic _____ Prehistoric _____
Both 1928, 1969, 1970s

*P7. Owner and Address
State of California

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address) Ward Hill, Architectural Historian, 3124 Octavia Street, San Francisco, CA 94123

*P9. Date Recorded October, 2002

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Intensive

*P11. Report Citation (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter none)

Historic Architecture Report for the Bay Area Research and Extension Center

Attachments: _____ NONE X Location Map X Sketch Map X Continuation Sheet X Building, Structure and Object Record _____ Archaeological Record _____ District Record _____ Linear Feature Record _____ Milling Station Record _____ Rock Art Record _____ Artifact Record _____ Photograph Record _____ Other (List) _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____

*NRHP Status Code _____

Page 2 of 23

*Resource Name or # (assigned by recorder) Bay Area Research & Extension Center

- B1. Historic Name: University of California Deciduous Fruit Field Station
B2. Common Name: Bay Area Research & Extension Center
B3. Original Use: Agricultural Research B4. Present Use Agricultural Research
*B5. Architectural Style: Bungalow

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

The original lab/office and shop date from 1928; these buildings have not been altered extensively. The greenhouses date from 1969, and the potting shed 1971. The other buildings date from the 1970s.

*B7. Moved? X No Yes Unknown Date: NA Original Location: NA

*B8. Related Features: apple orchard, corn fields, trees

B9a. Architect NA b. Builder: NA

*B10. Significance: Theme Agriculture Area Santa Clara County
Period of Significance 1928-1950 Property Type Research lab Applicable Criteria A
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

Originally known as the University of California Deciduous Fruit Field Station, the Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) was established in the Santa Clara Valley in 1920 for investigating problems pertaining to the growth and care of deciduous fruits (Amstutz 1959). The station was planned to serve growers in California's central coast counties. The station initially leased 5 acres in Mountain View that existing buildings that could be converted to office and laboratory space. Dr. W.L. Howard was director. The station's early research focused on brown apricot scale control, the control of brown rot in apricots, irrigation and pruning methods and work on oakroot fungus. When the Mountain View station closed in 1926, the station moved to a temporary site in the Willow Glen area of San Jose. (see continuation sheet)

J11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) _____

*B12. References:

B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator Ward Hill, Architectural Historian

*Date of Evaluation: October, 2002

(This space reserved for official comments)

Sketch map with north arrow required
(see attached)

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____

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Trinomial _____

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*Resource Name or # (assigned by recorder) Bay Area Research & Extension Center

*Recorded by Ward Hill

*Date: October, 2002 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

Item P3a. continued:

The BAREC property has its main building complex at the northeast corner. The main complex includes eight buildings. The original 1928 buildings on the site are the lab/office and the shop. The other six buildings – 3 greenhouses, restroom building, pesticide building and potting shed – are modern structures dating from the 1970s. Other structures include a small pump house, water tank and an open storage shed. About 200 feet southwest of the main complex are two additional buildings – equipment shed and storage building (both from 1977).

The paved driveway and exit leading to Winchester Boulevard are north and south of the office/laboratory building (Photo 1). A chain link fence, several small trees and a box hedge are in front of the office/lab and paved parking area is at the rear of the building. Several small shrubs and trees are adjacent to the side facades. The irregular plan office/lab has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and stucco exterior walls (Photo 2). Stylistically, the building resembles a bungalow style house of the period. The single-story front section steps up to a two-story rear section. Structurally, the building is stud wall, wood-frame construction with a concrete foundation. A stucco chimney projects from the east slope of the roof. The building primarily has one over one, wood-sash, double-hung windows. The main entrance door on the east façade is below a small shed roof supported by square columns with classical moldings (Photo 3). The handicapped ramp leading to the front entrance appears to be a later addition. The building has subsidiary doors, one on the south and two on the north facades (Photo 4). Three garage doors are on the west façade. From the front door, one enters a reception area adjacent to a small office. The original plans indicate seven laboratories (now used as offices) occupied most the interior space. The first floor has a large laboratory area north of the office (Photo 5) and a small lab south of the reception area. A stair from the reception area leads hallway opening to five small labs on the second floor. The labs have tongue and groove siding on the walls and ceiling and cabinets on one wall (Photo 6). The basement area includes a kitchen, garage and furnace room.

Directly west of the lab/office is the machinery storage/shop building (Photos 7 & 8). This simply detailed, single-story building has a double gambrel roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof eaves have exposed rafters. The stud-wall, wood-frame is covered with exterior, horizontal wood siding (the original siding is covered with plywood on the south façade). The south half of the east façade has an open entrance for machinery. Adjacent to this opening on the north is the shop area with a sliding door constructed of vertical wooden tongue and groove with diagonal bracing. The same sliding doors are on the west and north facades. The west façade has three, four light windows. The interior of the shop space has unfinished horizontal board walls, exposed roof rafters and a concrete floor (Photo 9).

Just south of the machinery storage/shop building are the three modern greenhouses and the potting shed. The rectangular plan greenhouses are steel tube frame construction with fiberglass exterior cladding (Photo 10). The rectangular shaped potting shed is constructed of wood-frame and concrete block (Photo 11). The exterior cladding is vertical wood boards and fiber-glass. The other buildings on the property dating from the 1970s include the restrooms (Photo 12), the pesticide building (Photo 13), the open storage shed (Photo 14), the pump house and water tank (Photo 15) and the equipment shed (Photo 16).

Item B10. continued:

The station moved to its permanent new location on the Santa Clara/Los Gatos Road (later North Winchester Boulevard) in 1928. Dr. B. A. Rudolph, who worked as a plant pathologist at the station, became the superintendent. The University leased 13 acres here from the Woman's Relief Corps Home, a state institution providing housing to indigent widows and daughters of veterans of the Civil War. The State of California had purchased this site in four parcels from A.E. Osbourne between 1921 and 1924. A new laboratory/office building and a shop/machinery storage building were completed in late 1928. The station had a limited staff and budget. Research activity at the station declined in the late thirties as staff was moved to Berkeley and Davis. Apparently only Dr. Rudolph worked at the station during the war years.

In 1947, after the legislature closed the women's home to future applicants, several organizations tried to take control of the property, including the Santa Clara County Welfare Department. A number of agricultural organizations served by the experiment station lobbied for its continuance because the University considered closing the Santa Clara station given that the County was interested in taking over the property. The University opened and closed research stations regularly depending on the needs of different areas they served in the state (Scheuring 2002). After the University of California decided to keep the Santa Clara station operating, the state transferred 13 acres of the property to the University in 1952. The Station's administration was also transferred to the Field Station Administration in Davis the same year.

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*Resource Name or # (assigned by recorder) Bay Area Research & Extension Center

*Recorded by Ward Hill

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When Dr. Rudolph passed away in June, 1953, Alfred Amstutz became the station superintendent. Amstutz had worked at the station since it opened in 1928. According to Edwin Amstutz, Alfred Amstutz research focused on strawberry varieties and tomatoes for canning (Amstutz 2002). A short 1959 history of the Deciduous Fruit Field Station written by Alfred Amstutz indicated that the "successful projects completed at the station" included a spray program for apricot brown rot, control programs for weevils, aphids, cyclamen mite, walnut blight and oakroot fungus, production and release of 5 varieties of strawberries, ESSRR canning tomato resistant to verticillium; research on other plants attacked by verticillium. When the Women's Relief Corps buildings were demolished in 1963, five additional areas became part of experiment station.

The station research shifted to ornamental crops in the 1960s as subdivisions and office/research parks replaced Santa Clara County's fruit orchards. The original focus of the station (reflected in its name as a Deciduous Fruit Station) had obviously become obsolete. The California State Florist Association financed the construction of three greenhouses at the research station. The research in the greenhouses focused lilies and mums. The potting shed near the greenhouses dates from 1971. Research also focused in turf grass and landscape plants, like iceplant, oleander and pine. The station address changed from 125 to 90 North Winchester after the property was annexed by the City of Santa Clara in 1977. In 1995, the field stations became Research and Extension Centers so the Deciduous Fruit Station was renamed the Bay Area Research and Extension Center. The property recently transferred back to the State of California since the Extension decided to close BAREC.

Evaluation

The only BAREC buildings over 50 years old are the lab/office building and the shop. The other buildings date from the late 1960s or 1970s, thus are not of potential historic significance. The landscaping and plantings on the property also appear to date from the last 30 years. The lab/office building retains a high level of historic integrity. The only exterior alteration is the ramp on the front façade. The original interior plan and finishes are intact. The shop building also does not appear to have been altered since originally constructed. The potential significance of these buildings is under California Register Criterion 1 (patterns of history etc) because of their association with agricultural history of the Santa Clara Valley and the research programs of the University of California. BAREC has always been one of the smaller research stations in the University system with a limited staff and budget. The research at the station from 1928 to 1952 (i.e. conducted over 50 years ago) was typical of other stations in the system, focusing on plant pathology issues to serve local commercial agricultural interests. According to agriculture historian Ann Scheuring, the University has opened and closed research stations on an on-going basis depending on the needs of the California agricultural economy. The strawberry varieties developed at BAREC may have contributed to the cultivation of this fruit, but more research is needed to assess its significance. Based on the historical research conducted for this research, the Santa Clara research station does not appear the research have had exceptional importance in the history of California agriculture. Thus, the lab/office and the shop do not appear to be significant under Criteria 1, 2 or 3, thus the buildings do not appear to be eligible for the California Register.

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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*Resource Name or # (assigned by recorder) Bay Area Research & Extension Center

*Recorded by Ward Hill

*Date: October, 2002 X Continuation Update

Item B12 continued:

Amstutz, Alfred

1959 "University of California Deciduous Fruit Station History," typewritten manuscript on file at the UC Agricultural Extension, Davis, CA.

Amstutz, Edwin, brother of Alfred Amstutz

2002 Personal communication with Ward Hill, October 11, 2002

Bay Area Research and Extension Center

"Headlines of the Fifties" on file at BAREC

"History of BAREC" on file at BAREC.

Rodebaugh, Dale

1999 "Farmers to Lose Helping Hand," *San Jose Mercury News*, July 7, 1999, p.8.

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Osbourne et al to State of California, 7/7/21, 8/21/21, 1/21/24.

State of California to the Regents of the University of California, 9/15/52, 3/18/63.

Scheuring, Ann

2002 Personal Communication with Ward Hill, October 14, 2002.

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

1990 Report on the Deciduous Fruit Agricultural Research and Extension Center Ad Hoc Review Committee, January 31, 1990.

2000 "UC Regents authorize return of research property to state," March 16, 2000 press release at [//danr.ucop.edu/news/jan-june2000/barec.html](http://danr.ucop.edu/news/jan-june2000/barec.html).

2002 "Bay Area Research and Extension Center" at the web site [//danrrec.ucdavis.edu/bay_area](http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/bay_area)

no date list of BAREC buildings with construction dates.

University of California College of Agriculture

1928 Laboratory building drawings dated June 1, 1928. On file at the Research and Extension Centers Administrative offices, Davis California.